

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 15 , 2012

RE: H.B. No. 1787
H.D. 2

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1787, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AGRICULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to support Hawaii's honey industry and ensure the health and safety of consumers of honey by:

- (1) Exempting qualifying agricultural producers without access to municipal water supplies or infrastructure, from the requirements of processing their agricultural products in certified food-processing establishments and obtaining Department of Health permits; and
- (2) Modifying the exemption for home-based agricultural honey producers from the requirements of processing honey in a certified honey house or food processing establishment and obtaining a Department of Health permit by:
 - (A) Changing the qualifying annual gallonage of honey sales from 50 gallons to an unspecified volume;
 - (B) Allowing sales of honey to retail stores on the same island that sell the honey directly to customers; and



- (C) Requiring a label on honey containers, warning against the consumption of honey by infants under a year old.

The Hawaii Farmers Union United testified in support of the measure. The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation testified in support of the intent of the measure. The Department of Health opposed the measure.

Your Committee encourages further discussion on the merits and feasibility of extending the exemption from processing agricultural projects in a certified food-processing establishment or obtaining a Department of Health permit, to all agricultural producers.


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Narrowing the exemption for agricultural producers without access to municipal water to only agricultural producers of honey without such access to municipal water;
- (2) Increasing the qualifying annual gallonage of honey sales, from 50 gallons to 500 gallons, for home-based honey production; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1787, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1787, H.D. 2.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,



RYAN I. YAMANE, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-sixth Legislature

HSCR 423-12

Record of Votes of the Committee on Health

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1787 ADI	Committee Referral: AGR, HLT, FIN	Date: 2-10-12		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HLT Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. YAMANE, Ryan L. (C)	✓			
2. MORIKAWA, Dee (VC)	✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au		✓		
4. HANOHANO, Faye P.	✓			
5. JORDAN, Jo				✓
6. LEE, Chris				✓
7. MIZUNO, John M.	✓			
8. WOOLEY, Jessica				✓
9. CHING, Corinne W.L.	✓			
10. PINE, Kymberly Marcos	✓			
TOTAL (10)	6	1		3
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align:center; font-size: small;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ <i>JM</i>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				